

ENVIRONMENTAL HEARINGS OFFICE

Minutes of Meeting

December 17, 2010

9:30 a.m.

The December 17, 2010 meeting was called to order by Chair Andrea McNamara Doyle in the Boards' office in Tumwater, Washington. Present were Chair Andrea McNamara Doyle, Board Members Bill Lynch and Kathy Mix and Administrative Appeals Judges Kay Brown and Phyllis Macleod, Administrative Manager Robyn Bryant, Hearings Coordinator Debbie Joblonski, and Administrative Secretary Janet Buechler. Minutes of the November 8, 2010 meetings were read and approved.

Handouts were distributed and were reviewed and recapped by Chair Andrea McNamara Doyle. The reports included the number and type of pollution and shoreline appeals filed, a brief summary of all cases that have closed, and the Case Statistics Report.

Appellate Update

Janet Buechler reported that two Superior Court Appeals have been filed: *Lemire v. Ecology* (PCHB No. 09-159) and *Lennox v. DNR* (FPAB No. 10-004).

Recent Executive Orders

Andrea McNamara Doyle discussed the new requirements for performance contracting. She also reported on the recent moratorium on rules changes, but clarification will be needed on how the moratorium will affect the new Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office in July and its stay rules.

Agency Self-Assessment

The results of the self-assessment scores were reviewed as to increased and decreased scores from the previous year. A strategic planning session will be planned for the spring.

VEBA Small Agency Voting Pool

Changes in EHO's VEBA policy were discussed. Additional revisions will be made to the policy before being brought before the Board at a later date for adoption.

Financial Update

Andrea Doyle led the discussion on the recent budget proposals. The results of the special session and the Governor's proposed budget were explained. The additional amounts cut from the EHO budget for the remainder of this 2010-11 biennium did not affect staffing at this point.

The 2011-13 Governor's budget contained retirement issues; health care costs issues, consolidation proposals and boards and commissions elimination. The 3% salary reduction across the board does apply to EHO, which reduces working hours by 5.2 hours per month. In addition, an 85-15 health care ratio was proposed, with the state not absorbing any further costs above the current 85% amount.

In addition, ELUHO will be facing an additional 10% budget cut. EHO is looking at voluntary leave without pay, additional furlough days and staff reductions to achieve that amount.

Miscellaneous

The No Print Option for payroll was discussed. It was determined the EHO will not participate in the No Print Option at this time.

Robyn reported on the information obtained from the Building Safety Meeting. Everyone was instructed to meet at the west parking area in the event of a building emergency and to gather as a group in order to ascertain that everyone is present.

There was a brief discussion reminding everyone as to the content of cover letters on Orders covering Partial Summary Judgments.

Meeting adjourned.

Janet Buechler
Administrative Secretary